

Minutes

Agricultural & Natural Resources Advisory Committee
Thursday, March 14, 2013, at 9:00 am
Charlotte County Administrative Center
18500 Murdock Circle, Room #B-207
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1094

MEMBERS PRESENT

Andy Dodd, Chairman
Wes Brumback, Vice Chairman
Chris Hencher
Matthew Sullivan, Jr.
Steve Smith
Orrin Webb, Secretary

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Lindsey Harrington
Dan Ryals

MEMBERS ABSENT

GUEST

Gio Ijpkemeule
Barbara Carlton
Robert H. Berntsson
Ron Hamel
Gary Bayne

STAFF

Matt Trepal, Staff Liaison
Inga Williams, Principal Planner
Joanne Vernon, Excavation Administrator

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The **March 14, 2013**, meeting of the ***Agricultural and Natural Resources Advisory Committee*** was called to order at 9:06:08 a.m. by ***Chairman Dodd*** who noted that there was a quorum present.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Chairman Dodd indicated he had a new matter for the agenda, to discuss the new version of the Committee's ordinance, and the timeline for the public hearing on that matter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Dodd asked to have the minutes approved; ***Mr. Webb*** moved approval of the minutes of the January 10, 2012 meeting, second by ***Mr. Brumback***. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Duffy expressed her satisfaction that the Excavation Ordinance update was nearing completion, along with the LDR revision which was expected to be available online for comment over the summer. She mentioned plans to hold the next Charlotte Assembly, which has not been held since 2007. She also mentioned the possibility of a one-cent sales tax going on the 2014 ballot, and the need to get input from the business sector regarding this proposal, and also ideas about how the collected funds should be used; she noted the last penny sales tax had gone to roads, and that this time it might likely go toward economic development. Commissioner Duffy indicated that the landfill matter was still an open issue and the applicants had until September 2013 to decide whether or not to pursue it. There was also some discussion on local road projects.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Presentation on the Land Development Regulations Revision process Planner Matt Trepal** presented an update on the project, noting that there is now a hard deadline of June 15th to have a copy of the revised Code available online for public review. He gave some general information about the progress of the work and the investigations into a workable format for presenting it online for comments, noting that software that had been used for that purpose when the Comprehensive Plan was rewritten was no longer workable. Some discussion ensued on the technical issues of getting the project online. **Mr. Trepal** indicated that changes to the Code would not have a great impact on the rural areas; **Principal Planner Inga Williams** noted that changes to the Aquifer Recharge portions of the Code would need to await updating of Smart Charlotte 2050. Another pertinent section would be that concerning wellhead protection. There was also some discussion of the EAR amendment process which, though no longer required by the State, was a process which the County desired to complete. **Mr. Dodd** asked about the Rural Communities and Conservation Subdivision portions, and **Mr. Trepal** indicated that standards had been developed for these types of development, in support of the Comp Plan policies. Further comment was given on these issues.
- **Proposed Article XXIII Excavation and Earthmoving Ms. Williams** spoke about the most recent, final draft of this part of the Code which, she noted, had always been intended to be a comprehensive approach to all aspects of earthmoving. She noted that she had been reviewing all the related parts of the Code that reference earthmoving in contexts other than plain excavation, in order to update all the related material at once.

There followed a detailed review of the text of the Code and a discussion of the changes amongst Commissioner Duffy, ANRAC members, guests, and staff; the primary points of discussion concerned the maximum allowed depth of exempt excavations, balancing operation time limits (weekends and nights) against complaints from homeowners, managing duplication of review efforts (SWFWMD / County), limitations on overall size of excavations, and material for the Definitions section.

The audio of this discussion is available online at the following URL:

<http://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/boards-committees/anrac/Pages/Meeting-Minutes.aspx>

No official action was taken by the Committee on the Earthmoving Code material at the conclusion of this review and discussion. **Ms. Williams** provided the group with a general timeline of the next expected steps, moving on from the comments received today.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Gio Ijpkemeule from SWFWMD offered comments and maps concerning District projects in Charlotte County. She indicated she would also provide the information to the group electronically.

GUEST COMMENTS

None.

STAFF COMMENTS

None.

MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

Not discussed.

NEXT MEETING

⑩ *May 9, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in Room B-207*

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m. as moved by **Mr. Sullivan** and seconded by **Mr. Hencher**.

**To be approved by the Committee on:
May 9, 2013**